

clee1 - Lina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2012 12:53 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: publicpolicy@oha.org
Subject: Testimony for HB2181 on 2/1/2012 8:30:00 AM
Attachments: Testimony HB2181.pdf

Testimony for HAW 2/1/2012 8:30:00 AM HB2181

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: Comments Only
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Sterling Wong
Organization: Office of Hawaiian Affairs
E-mail: publicpolicy@oha.org
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:



HB2181
RELATING TO VACANCIES
House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

February 1, 2012

8:30 a.m.

Room: 329

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers the following comments on HB2181, which seeks to amend the deadline to file nomination papers associated with filling a vacancy in the membership of the board of trustees of OHA.

It is our understanding that this measure simply seeks to ensure that, when a vacancy on the OHA Board of Trustees is to be filled for the unexpired term at the next succeeding special election held in conjunction with the general election, the Office of Elections will have adequate time to mail absentee ballots to uniformed and overseas voters no later than 45 days prior to the election. We further understand that the bill seeks to ensure compliance with the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010. We understand and appreciate the intent of the bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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From: Carolyn.L.Roldan@hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2012 11:14 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Subject: Testimony for HB 2181 - RELATING TO VACANCIES
Attachments: HB 2181.pdf

Testimony submitted for:

Measure No. House Bill 2181 - RELATING TO VACANCIES
Committee: House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
Date/Time: Wednesday, February 1, 2012 @ 8:30 am
Testifier: Scott T. Nago, Chief Election Officer



**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS**

802 LEHUA AVENUE
PEARL CITY, HAWAII 96782
www.hawaii.gov/elections

SCOTT T. NAGO
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

**TESTIMONY OF THE
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2181
RELATING TO VACANCIES**

February 1, 2012

Chair Hanohano and members of the House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 2181. The purpose of this bill is to amend the deadline to file nomination papers associated with the filling of a vacancy in the membership of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

In 2010, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010, P.L. 111-84, mandated the mailing of absentee ballots to uniformed and overseas voters no later than forty-five days prior to an election. For regularly scheduled elections, our laws provide sufficient time between the conclusion of the candidate filing process and this deadline to permit us to design, print, and mail out ballots to our uniformed and overseas voters.

However, we have a variety of vacancy laws that permit a special vacancy election to be held in conjunction with a regularly scheduled General Election. Instead of establishing the filing deadline for nomination papers as the same as that used for the General Election, it sets the deadline at fifty days prior to the election. Prior to the previously mentioned federal law, we had sufficient time to mail the ballots out in advance of the General Election. The current fifty day time period for a special vacancy election for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs only permits us five days to redesign the ballot to include the names of the candidates for the vacant seat, coordinate the printing of over 600,000 redesigned ballots, and then mail them out by the forty fifth day prior to the General Election.

The present bill permits the deadline for candidate filing for such a situation to be moved from the fiftieth day prior to the General Election to the sixtieth day prior to the General Election. Currently, there is a vacancy in the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, which if this law is not changed, will result in us not being able to comply with the previously mentioned federal law.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 2181.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2012 1:04 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: kaiwilauula@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2181 on 2/1/2012 8:30:00 AM
Attachments: HB 2181_OHA_vacancies.docx

Testimony for HAW 2/1/2012 8:30:00 AM HB2181

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Vanda Hanakahi
Organization: Aha Moku Advisory Committee
E-mail: kaiwilauula@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 1/29/2012

Comments:

Leimana DaMate, Executive Director of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee, will be present at the committee hearing to answer questions on our behalf if need be. Mahalo.



Vanda Hanakahi, Chair, Aha Moku Advisory Committee

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT
OF HB 2181

RELATING TO VACANCIES

House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2012, 8:30 a.m., Room 329

Aloha Chair Hanohano, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2181. This bill amends the deadline to file nomination papers associated with filling a vacancy in the membership of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA), to ensure compliance with provisions of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2010, mandating the mailing of absentee ballots to uniformed and overseas voters no later than forty-five days prior to an election.

We support the passage of H.B.2181. Mahalo nui loa!

Vanda Hanakahi, Chair, Aha Moku Advisory Committee (Moloka'i). P.O. Box 507, Ho'olehua, HI, 96729.

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